

Application No. 10/623,588  
Reply dated November 7, 2008  
Reply to Examiner's Answer of September 8, 2008

**REMARKS**

**Reconsideration and Allowance  
Are Respectfully Requested**

Claims 1-20 are currently pending. No claims have been amended. No claims have been canceled. No claims have been added. No new matter has been introduced. Reconsideration and entry are respectfully requested.

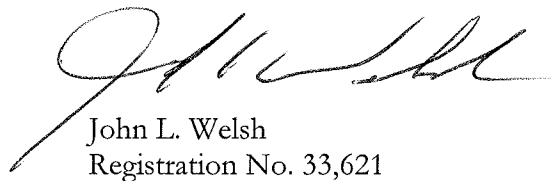
Claims 1-3, 5, 6, 8-11, 13 and 15-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0250386 to Goldberg ("Goldberg") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,996,191 to Christler ("Christler"). Claims 4, 7, 12 and 14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Goldberg in view of Christler, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 3,748,703 to Maillocheau ("Maillocheau").

All of the outstanding rejections are based upon Goldberg having a filing date of May 30, 2003. However, Goldberg does not qualify as prior art. The attached Declaration by the attorney of record establishes Applicant's conception and reduction to practice before May 30, 2003. This Reply and accompanying declaration are necessary to show that Goldberg is not prior art in accordance with § 102 and could not have been previously presented as Goldberg was never previously cited against Applicant in any rejection. 37 C.F.R. 1.116(e). As such, Applicant respectfully requests the present declaration be entered and the rejection be withdrawn.

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It is believed that this case is in condition for allowance and reconsideration thereof and early issuance is respectfully requested. If it is felt that an interview would expedite prosecution of this application, please do not hesitate to contact Applicant's representative at the below number.

Respectfully submitted,



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